



CONGRATUATIONS
to *Leaping Llamas and
Marching Alpacas!!*
They had 100% of their
club in attendance for the
spaghetti
dinner and
are the winners of the
pizza party.



THANK YOU to all who donated, bought,
helped and ate!! The Interstate Exchange Spaghetti
Dinner and Dessert Auction was a **SUCCESS!!** The
kids made about \$2700 and all of it will go direct-
ly toward the 2012-2013 interstate exchange with
Saginaw, MI.

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT
OF THIS ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME
4-H OPPORTUNITY.

*Don't
miss this one!*

MONTANA
is turning **100**
Let's Celebrate!



**CAMP CLEAN-UP DAY &
POTLUCK AT
DARRELL FENNER 4-H CAMP**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May
19th for this year's 4-H Family Camp
Clean-Up. Plan to bring a pot luck item
and meet at 10:00 am; the camp will pro-
vide beverages and burgers for lunch. Bring shovels, rakes,
wheel barrows, shop vacs and any other useful tool for the
job. We should be finished by around 4:00 pm. **BE SURE TO
CALL** the Extension Office and let us know how many in
your group to plan for lunch. 758-5553



**FLATHEAD
COUNTY
CONGRESS**

Saturday, April 21st from
8:30am -1:30pm

(all participants must arrive by 8:30 am to
register. Judging starts at 9:00 am)

First Presbyterian Church
540 South Main Street In
Kalispell.

Potluck lunch & Award cere-
mony will begin at noon.
Please bring a potluck item
to share.

SPRING HAS SPRUNG

The robins are back and the crocus are peeking out. We all have an itch to get in the garden. Patience. Planting season is still two months away. If you have a heated greenhouse, you can start your seeds. If not, you may want to wait another three to four weeks. When you put seedlings in a window, they may be all stretched and weak before planting. An option would be to purchase a plant grow bulb set up from one of the local garden centers. These bulbs have the correct colored light waves needed for sturdy plant development. Always use sterilized seed starter mix. Topsoil may contain bacteria or fungus that kill your seedlings. Transplant your seedlings when they have two to three mature leaves into larger pots. Water your seedlings from the bottom to avoid washing them out and disturbing the root system. Good air circulation is a must to reduce disease pressure. Any household fan should do.



Another tip is to wait until your soil dries out before working in your garden. Working the soil when it is wet will compact it. This reduces the pore space and makes it harder for your soil to hold water and oxygen. Your soil needs to provide your plants with water, nutrients and oxygen. If soil sticks to your shoe get off the garden, the soil is too wet.

So, what can I do during the next beautiful day, you ask? Spring is a good time for pruning. Trim out dead or broken branches. If you are trimming a shade tree, make sure you have a strong central leader. This should be the tallest "branch" at the center of your tree. If any branches are competing with this leader, cut them back. Take out any branches that are crossed or rubbing on each other. Montana State University has a great selection of factsheets or Montguides available for free download at www.msuextension.org/store. There is a very good one on pruning fruit trees and deciduous shade trees. Shrubs that should not be pruned now are spring flowering plants like lilacs and forsythia. These should be pruned after they flower in the summer.



Soon the woodpeckers may start rattling the side of your house. They often do this early in the spring to attract a mate. You can discourage them by hanging aluminum pie plates or wind chimes where they like to knock. It is illegal to shoot these noisy visitors. Just make your house less attractive to the birds by adding moving objects and they should move on.

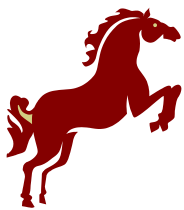
For more information, contact: Pat McGlynn, Ag & Natural Resource Agent, at the Flathead County Extension Office—office: 406-758-5554; cell: 406-253-2028.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT

Scholarship opportunity for a Community Garden project. This is available to any school program, 4-H club or individual youth who wish to educate or serve their community with a gardening project. Projects can include anything to do with gardening, from school gardens to helping others in need. There will be up to \$600 in scholarships given for use at Angie's Greenhouse and Plant Care in Columbia Falls, and any youth or youth organization can apply. If you're interested, please submit the following information to the Extension Office by **Friday, April 20th**:

1. Is this an established group of youth (school class, 4-H club, etc) or is this an individual youth applying?
2. What type of project will be developed?
3. Location of the community service project?
4. Audience who will be served by the project?
5. Goals for the project?





Flathead County 4-H Horse Camp

May 11th & 12th, 2012
Flathead County Fairgrounds



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This year is our 5th Annual Flathead County 4-H Horse Camp. Contact the Extension Office for a Registration Form or go to flathead.mt.gov/extension to download the form (click on downloads). Registrations are due to the Extension Office no later than **Monday, April 16, 2012**. Early bird registration runs now through April 6th, 2012 and will be \$50.00 per member. A registration fee of \$60.00 will be charged after April 6th. If there are multiple members attending camp from the same household, a "household discount" of \$10 per member will be applied. A t-shirt and all meals are included with registration.

Partial scholarships in the amount of \$30 for camp registration fees are available upon written scholarship requests. Requests may be turned in to the Extension Office with your registration packet. Stall fees of \$5.00 per stall will be charged; however, the fee will be refunded at the end of camp if the stall is clean.

Members are required to have a chaperone present during clinic hours. These hours are Friday, May 11th, 2012 from 6:00pm-9:30pm and on Saturday, May 12th, 2012 from 8:30am-5:00pm. Chaperones are charged a fee of \$25.00 for a t-shirt and meals, which includes Friday's dinner and three meals on Saturday. Members who are unable to tack-up their own horse will require a chaperone's help. A chaperone may be responsible for up to no more than 5 campers. Overnight chaperones will be selected previous to camp. Forms will not be accepted for members who do not have a chaperone listed.

JOIN | THE REVOLUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY

There is a movement of positive change going on around the country. Discover some of the ways 4-H'ers are making a difference.

José Cazares

4-H'er / Tech Wizard / Mentor

SHARE YOUR STORY



ARE YOU A TEENAGER??

If you are, you should seriously consider becoming a member of the Flathead County 4-H Teen Council.

For more information, contact Samantha Lake at 253-7771 or call the Extension office at 758-5553.

4-H Shooting Sports Camp

May 11, 12 & 13, 2012

Loon Lake 4-H Camp

Registration Due: May 4. Fee: \$50 per person. \$150 per family. Contact the Extension Office for a Registration Form or go to flathead.mt.gov/extension to download the form (click on downloads)



Great guest speakers

Air Rifle

Archery

Pistol

Shotgun

Cowboy Action Activities

\$50/person

**Maximum \$150/family
(Immediate family members)**

**Includes lodging
and meals**

Space is limited!



Upcoming 4-H Meetings and Special Events

Forums, Committees & Councils

- **Teen Council—ALL TEENS ARE WELCOME:** *Friday, May 25th at 6:30 pm at the Agape House, located at 40 Appleway Drive, Kalispell, MT. Contact-Samantha Lake, our 4-H Senior Ambassador, at 253-7771.*
- **Interstate Exchange Planning Meeting:** *Thursday, May 31st at 7:00 pm in the EBB 2nd Floor Conference Room. Please contact Wendy Morris at 862-0801 for more details.*
- **4-H Camp Counselor Planning Meetings:** *Friday, April 27; Friday, May 4; Thursday, May 24; Friday, June 8; Friday, June 29; and Friday, July 20th at 5:30 pm at the EBB on the 2nd floor. Camp Counselor applications are due to Extension office on April 27. Counselors are required to participate in 5 out of the 6 meetings.*

Due Dates

- ◇ **Hand-To-Heart:** Due Friday, April 6th.
- ◇ **Market Livestock Contracts for Hog & Sheep:** Due Monday, April 16th.
- ◇ **Horse Camp Apps:** Due Monday, April 16th. **Early bird deadline is the 6th.*
- ◇ **County Ambassador Apps:** Due Friday, April 20th.
- ◇ **Garden Project Scholarship Apps:** Due Friday, April 20th.
- ◇ **Teen Retreat Registrations:** Due Friday, April 20th. Teen Retreat is May 4-6.
- ◇ **Camp Counselor Apps:** Due Friday, April 27th.



Upcoming Activities & Other Meetings

- ◇ **Hunting Shooting Sports:** *1st & 3rd Thursday of the month at Fish, Wildlife & Parks office. Please contact Jon Obst for more info: 257-0395.*
- ◇ **Muzzleloading:** *Every Sunday thru April from 1:00-4:00 pm at Lapp's Shooting Range. The shooting range is located on Columbia Falls Stage Road. For more information call Randy Burns at 755-1262. Equipment is provided.*
- ◇ **Beef Weigh-In:** *Tuesday April 10, 4:30-6:30. Fairgrounds*
- ◇ **Entomology:** *Saturday, April 14 at 1:00 at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds.*
- ◇ **Horse Assessment Leader Training:** *Saturday, April 14. 9am. Mooring Rd. Arena in Columbia Falls. Call Codi for more information: 250-6865.*
- ◇ **Hog Seminar:** *Monday, April 16th. 6:30.*
- ◇ **County Congress:** *Saturday, April 21st from 9-1:00 at the 1st Presbyterian Church on Main Street. Contact Tammy at the Extension Office for more information: 758-5552*
- ◇ **Hog Weigh-In:** *Tuesday April 24, 4:30-6:30. Fairgrounds*
- ◇ **Horse Clinic #4/Golden Spurs Clinic/Horse Show:** *Saturday, April 28th at 10:00-4:00 at Mooring Rd. Arena. Bring your horse. Cost is \$5. For more info please call Chris Scott 261-9454.*
- ◇ **Horse Camp:** *May 11th & 12th. Flathead County Fairgrounds.*
- ◇ **Camp Cleanup Day:** *May 19th. 10-4pm. Darrell Fenner 4-H Camp at Loon Lake. **call the Extension Office and let them know how many from your group are coming.*



Owner/Lease Affidavit forms for ALL Llama projects participating in 2012 fair due by June 1st. Submit to Extension office or to Angela Crenshaw.

EBB is the Earl Bennett Building, located at 1035 1st Avenue West, Kalispell. Also commonly known as the City County Health Department.

Special Edition Flathead County 4-H Heritage Families

Kelch Family 4-H Legacy

The Kelch Family 4-H legacy in Flathead Valley-Montana started with Great-Great-Grandpa Everett Kelch in 1929 as a 4-H member with the Grandview Supreme 4-H club and then as a long-time 4-H leader with the Pilot View Livestock 4-H club, 20+ years of leadership. Five generations and 36 family members have benefited from the 4-H program in Flathead Valley through

Bill & Everett Kelch—Grandview Supreme



Sherry Madsen—4-H Leader for Dandy Dudes & Dolls

many projects both livestock and home economics.



Everett's daughter Sherry Madsen is currently the 4-H leader for the Dandy Dudes & Dolls 4-H club. She has been a leader for 24 years and was a 4-H member for 9 years. Sherry's club continues the 4-H legacy of roadside clean-up, foods fair, 4-H camp, and public speaking and judging competitions along with participating at the N.W. Montana Fair. In her club she has a granddaughter Rachel Saenz and a great granddaughter Betsy Nelson as 4-H leaders, 6 great grandchildren (Ramon, Isaac, Francis and Marcos Saenz, Gracie Mordja and Rylin Madsen) and 1 great-great grandchild (Julia Nelson) of Everett's as 4-H members.

Everett's granddaughter Wendy Morris and great granddaughter Casey Morris are currently 4-H leaders for the TrailBlazers 4-H club. Wendy has been a 4-H leader for 20 years and was a 4-H member for 8 years. Casey was a 4-H member for 9 years and is continuing her 4-H experience as a leader. A great-great grandchild of Everett's is also a 4-H member Isabell Johnson.



Wendy, Casey & Isabell—4-H Trailblazers

Thanks to Wendy Morris for submitting this article regarding her family's 4-H heritage. If your family has three or more generations that have been involved in 4-H, nationally, within Montana, or within Flathead County, please contact us. We'd love to hear your story. For more information on the Montana 4-H Centennial or about Flathead County's 4-H program please call us at 758-5553 or email us at extension@flathead.mt.gov



SNAP Recipe of the Month



Here's a great recipe to help children and adults get more vegetables per day . It's a beautiful green color and all you taste is the banana and vanilla yogurt- not the spinach.

Groovy Green Smoothie **Yield: 2 servings**

1 banana, cut in chunks
6 ounces vanilla yogurt
1½ cup fresh or frozen spinach
leaves
1 cup orange juice

Place ingredients into blender;
blend until smooth.

PER SERVING: CALORIES 192 • FAT 2 G •
PROTEIN 7 G • CARBOHYDRATE 40 G •
FIBER 2 G



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education enables young families, single recipients and seniors to learn how to best use their food stamp dollars in providing healthy nutrition for themselves and their families. Adults can sign up for a 6 week course that is fun and provide the basic concepts of good nutrition. The only requirements to join in the classes are: that a person is receiving WIC assistance; either receiving food stamps or are eligible to receive them; or are getting commodity foods. Please call Nancy at the Flathead County Extension office at 758-2448 to sign-up for classes.

*MSU Extension Service
Flathead County*

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*Tammy Walker
4-H & Youth Development Agent*

*Shelley Struck
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State Web Sites:

www.msuextension.org

www.montana4h.org

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